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**(54) METHOD FOR PURIFYING EXHAUST GAS OF  
INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE,  
PURIFICATION CATALYST AND APPARATUS  
FOR PURIFYING EXHAUST GAS**

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To enhance the SO<sub>x</sub> resistance and NO<sub>x</sub> removing performance of an NO<sub>x</sub> adsorption reduction type catalyst.

SOLUTION: When a catalyst which contains at least

one selected from alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, Rh and Pt, chemically adsorbs NO<sub>x</sub> in a higher air-fuel ratio than a theoretical air-fuel ratio and reduces and removes the chemically adsorbed NO<sub>x</sub> in the theoretical air-fuel ratio or below is disposed in the exhaust gas passage of an internal combustion engine, Zr is incorporated into the catalyst and at least one selected from Pd, Ir and Ru is further incorporated.

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